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ing settled along the Atlantic coast, began to push their way westward they encountered no geographical obstacles." But this is a small fault in a scholarly and useful volume. A. P. B.

Mont Pelée and the Tragedy of Martinique, by Angelo Heilprin. 8vo, 335 pp., with map and many illustrations. J. B. Lippincott Company.

Professor Heilprin's reputation as an observer and writer would lead one to anticipate a vivid and authoritative presentation of the great catastrophe. This expectation is fulfilled in the volume before us. We have the story of three ascents of Pelée, and of some weeks spent in its neighbourhood, as well as the accounts of resident observers here reproduced. The author brings out very fully the alarming events of the days preceding the cataclysm of May 8, and makes the false security of the people seem incomprehensible. The warnings would certainly have been heeded but for the authority of a few trusted advisers.

Naturally, among the absorbing chapters are those describing "the last day of Saint Pierre" (V), the destruction of May 8 (III), and the author's third ascent, that of August 30, on the evening of which Morne Rouge was destroyed and a large additional region devastated (Battling with Pelée, Ch. XV). Chapter XII has deep interest in its story of the tragic end of the devoted Père Mary, faithful to his spiritual charge to the last. Chapter VIII draws a parallel between Pelée and Vesuvius, and places some interesting question marks upon the ordinary geological teaching about Vesuvius. The closing chapter reviews in a summary way the phenomena of the eruption. Perhaps the passage of greatest interest in this chapter gives the author's conclusions as to the origin and aiming of the fiery blast that destroyed Saint Pierre:

A volume of steam with intense explosive energy rising to the crater-mouth, blowing out in its first paroxysm a part of the crater-floor, and then exploding in free air under a heavily-depressing cushion of ascending steam and ash, and with surrounding walls of rock on three sides and more to form an inner casing to nature's giant mortar. The blast was forced through the open cut, or lower lip of the crater, that was directed to Saint Pierre.

A. P. B.

The Hudson River, from Ocean to Source, by Edgar Mayhew Bacon, with 100 illustrations, and with sectional map of the Hudson River. 590 pp. G. P. Putnam's Sons.

This volume is uniform in appearance and in general character with Reid's Mohawk Valley, issued from the same press one year earlier. It is described upon the title page in the words Historical—